

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 755

By Coleman

A RESOLUTION to congratulate the LaVergne High School Marching Band and Directors Edward Freytag and Chris Crumley upon placing 8th in the nation at the United States Scholastic Band Association Grand National Championships.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly are proud to recognize those school organizations and associations whose dedication to excellence bring honor to the State of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, the LaVergne High School Marching Band is one such organization, and its 8th place national ranking at the United States Scholastic Band Association (USSBA) Grand National Championships is a testament to the abilities of its individual members; and

WHEREAS, at the esteemed competition, the band as a whole received an 8th place ranking, the drumline placed 5th, and the colorguard placed 11th in the nation; and

WHEREAS, the band received its invitation to the prestigious event in September and was one of nearly 70 bands nationwide competing at the contest held on November 17, 2007, at the M&T Stadium in Baltimore, Maryland; and

WHEREAS, receiving an invitation to the USSBA Championships is quite an accomplishment for the LaVergne band program, which had as few as 50 members less than five short years ago; and

WHEREAS, since then, the LaVergne High School Marching Band program has grown by leaps and bounds under the capable leadership of the Directors of Bands, Edward Freytag and Chris Crumley, and now boasts a membership of 119 and is acknowledged as a competitive entity to be reckoned with; and

WHEREAS, this marching band is the first one at LaVergne High School to receive such a distinguished opportunity to compete at this high level; and

WHEREAS, only three other band programs in the State of Tennessee received this honor and the LaVergne High School Marching Band was the only Middle Tennessee band represented at the event; and

WHEREAS, the LaVergne High School Marching Band received its invitation based on its exemplary competitive record of the past four years; and

WHEREAS, the band plans to continue to as an indomitable force in the competitive marching band field, as it will participate in several other competitions as the season unfolds; and

WHEREAS, during the trip, four senior band members received the distinction of being escorted by guards of the Tombs of the Unknown Soldiers to place a specially designed wreath bearing the logo “LaVergne High School Band” in front of the tombs; these selected individuals were Josh Merbitz, Aaron McGowen, Ross Harvey, and David Hardy; and

WHEREAS, the members of the marching band extend their utmost appreciation to the LaVergne High School Band Booster Association, who worked tirelessly to raise funds to pay the costs of the trip for the band members; and

WHEREAS, the dedication of the individual musicians, who committed countless hours of practice in an effort to attain perfection, enabled the LaVergne High School Marching Band to participate at such an elevated level of competition; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby congratulate the LaVergne High School Marching Band, and its Directors, Edward Freytag and Chris Crumley, upon placing 8th, the drumline placing 5th, and the colorguard placing 11th in the nation at the United States Scholastic Band Association Grand National Championships. We commend the band’s devotion to providing the highest level of entertainment to thousands throughout the season, and offer our fondest wishes for their continued success in the future.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.